The Chicago Tribune.

VOL XXII. CHICAGO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1869. NUMBER 187.

WASHINGTON.

Yesterday's Proceedings in Congress.

The President's Amnesty Proclamation a Subject of Inquiry in the Senate.

Bill to Amend the National Banking Act Introduced in the Senate.

Leading Points of the Documents in Connection with the St. Thomas Treaty.

Speech of General Grant to the Printers' Republican Club.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.

THE ST. THOMAS NEGOTIATIONS.

The documents in connection with the St. Thomas treaty are of a confidential character, but so much has been said about them in private conversation here that some of their leading points may be given. It appears that propositions for the purchase of the Danish islands were begun four years ago, during Mr. Lincoln's administration, when Mr. Seward was proposed for them, saying they were wanted by our country for naval stations. The Danish Minister did not take it at all favorably at first, but finally, of course forwarded it to his government. From the King of Denmark, through his Foreign Secretary, there soon came answer that the islands were not for sale, and that to was not considered advisable to entertain the proposition. Then followed the death of Mr. Lincoln, the accession of Mr. Johnson, the change of the Danish home government, and in the fall of 1866 Mr. Seward renewed his proposals. Now indications were about the King of Denmark would be replied to the effect that while he still had no desire to sell, the United States might make it for his pecuniary advantage to do so. A period of silence or inaction seems to have followed, but in the summer of 1866, just as the Danish Minister was about to return home, he informed Mr. Seward put into his hands a letter in which the offered $5,000,000 for the three islands. This was duly laid before the King of Denmark, and the answer d that the price was not sufficient. In the autumn of 1867 Mr. Seward made a second trip to St. Thomas, and when he returned our Secretary of State was more than ever anxious to buy the islands, and in the spring of 1868 the negotiations to take the shape it finally assumed. The Danish Government from the first, as the correspondence shows, was very loth to negotiate, and only after have sometimes doubted whether Mr Seward would be sustained by the legislative branch of the government. This Secretary has at last presented that the Executive had a complete right to make the treaty; that there was no doubt of the authorization by the Senate, and that the House and the country would approve the action of the Senate. The Secretary of the Navy had formally recommended the purchase of the islands. The Secretary of War was also consulted. Secretary Rawlins was a strong advocate of the treaty. Two or three prominent politicians have been here to urge the President to had made a speech in the House showing his confidence in Secretary Seward, and had clarified that body with him on the question of the islands' pecuniary. The fact that negotiations were going on had become public, and was commented upon by our newspapers without favorable comment. In fact, the Secretary and the Danish Minister became persuaded that the country really wanted the islands, and that Mr. Seward was correct in his views that the treaty would at once be ratified. As a matter of course, this being the situation, it was natural that Mr. Seward should make a speech in the House showing his confidence in Secretary Seward, and had clarified public

THE NATIONAL WEALTH.

Report of Hon. David A. Wells,

Special Commissioner of the Revenue,

on the

Present Industrial Condition of the Country.

Causes Promoting and Retarding National Wealth.

Effects of an Irredeemable Currency.

Taxation and Revenue.

The National Balance Sheet.

The Question of Specie Payments.

Contracts on a Gold Basis.

Retrenchment and Economy.

How to Restore the Public Credit.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF SPECIAL COM'R OF THE REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, December 1, 1869.

SIR: I propose in this my third annual report, which I have the honor herewith to present, to set forth, for the consideration of Congress, the results of a personal investigation of the subjects instructed with a view not of establishing or confirming any particular theory, but rather of ascertaining the facts which underlie all questions of public economy, and which apply in legislation in many to produce beneficial results, whether it be the reversal, or modification, or establishment of public policy.

As will be seen in my report for 1868, I then stated that the then existing condition of the country in regard to the production and distribution of wealth, and the general industrial and financial situation, were such as to render it unwise to recommend any extensive changes in the revenue laws, except in the direction of reduction. Subsequent events have fully confirmed the correctness of this opinion. The country has since then been passing through a period of transition, from the effects of the war, and recovering from the effects of the war, and recovering from the effects of the war, and recovering

PERSONAL.

Cash made $7,126 by his wealth in Buffalo.

Gambetta is resting at Aix-les-Bains.

Verdi will not write an opera for Paris.

Adelina Patti Nicolini is the belle of Vienna.

The Red-Sea cable fleet is at Suez, Isthmus.

Mr. Gladstone is still suffering from a cold.

Mr. Longfellow's health is somewhat improved.

Mr. Bancroft Davis is in Europe for several months.

Mr. Edmund Yates is writing a book about Paris.

Mr. Gladstone's health is reported to be improving.

Mr. Billings, pictured in Kyrie, O., has a powerful pompadour.

The alleged de Rossiter suffers greatly from disease of the chest.

Artist Henry Bowne in Bonner's latest acquisition to his staff.

Mr. Bancroft Davis left last week for Europe on a visit of pleasure.

Mr. Longfellow's health is somewhat improved, and he is able to walk out daily.

Mr. Gladstone has written a letter to Mr. Bright, his colleague in the Cabinet

STATE LEGISLATURES.

Yesterday's Proceedings at Springfield.

Appointment of the Senate Standing Committees.

Bill Introduced to Provide for the Calling of a Constitutional Convention.

Bill Regulating Railroad Passenger Rates Introduced in the House.

Governor Hoffman's Message to the New York Legislature.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 5.

YESTERDAY'S SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Both Houses of the General Assembly met this morning at 10 o'clock, and after sessions of less than an hour adjourned until this morning. A few bills were presented in each house, but none of special importance save those mentioned below.

COMMITTEES.

The Senate Committees were agreed upon last night in caucus, and reported this morning. Upon the Speaker of the House rests the responsibility of appointing the committees for that body, and the task is one of great difficulty, how the Democratic majority of the members have before them. An informal ballot for Speaker was taken the following result:

Joseph E. Smith, of Macon.....
D. W. Rucker, of Macoupin.....
B. W. Huston, of Peoria.....
Mr. Smith and Mr. Rucker, Mr. Woodman's nomination was made unanimous.

Mr. R. M. Sweet, of Peoria, was nominated for Clerk of the House by acclamation. The ballots for Sergeant-at-Arms resulted as follows:

A. Forlow, of Detroit.....
Wm. Ford, of Crawford.....
H. H. Scherer, of Lenawee.....
C. C. Lamb, of Macon.....

In the next ballot, for candidate for Enrolling and Engrossing Clerk, Mr. A. A. Hall, of Lenawee, received 58 votes to 55 for A. A. Hall Thompson, who was nominated by acclamation.

The Senate caucus was organized with Morgan Bates as Chairman, and Mr. Phillips as Secretary. The following officers were nominated by acclamation: R. H. Sisson, of Saginaw, Sergeant-at-Arms; William Stickles, Enrolling Clerk. It is understood that Mr. Sisson will be appointed to the Senate. No nominations were made.

In the House the following Committees were selected: Speaker, Hon. J. Kingsley, Washtenaw; Clerk, H. Starks, Detroit; Sergeant-at-Arms, A. Cummings, Oakland; enrolling Clerk, F. C. Baker, Lansing.

INDIANA.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 5.

The Legislature meets in Ellis Hall to-day, and nearly all the members are here, and the House is organized. Democratic officers were put in places for the various Senatorial candidates. Each party has a caucus to-night to nominate candidates for Speaker of the House. The leading candidates for Speaker of the House are: A. R. Stanton, of Indianapolis, and Colonel Valentine Peter, of Fort Wayne. The chances are in favor of the former, yet Stanton's friends are working hard, and claim that he will be nominated before the third ballot. If he is not, they will be disappointed. There is a considerable talk of the other candidates combining against Cumback; but they cannot agree on any one, and all the votes that would have been given for Younglove are likely to be scattered. It is supposed that Mr. Chandler unquestionably has more strength than any other single candidate, but the combination of the supporters of All others upon one would make the contest a very close one.

Both houses have held caucuses this evening to select officers. The House caucus met in the Representative Hall, at 7:30 p. m., and organized with Governor Hendricks, President of the Senate, presiding, and H. H. Holt, of Muncie, as Secretary. An informal ballot for Speaker was taken the following result:

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EUROPE.

The Eastern Question.

Russia's Object in Urging the Meeting of the Congress.

Greece to Bring Forward the Claims of the Cretans.

Discovery of a Carlist Conspiracy in Barcelona.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

RUSSIA'S OBJECT IN URGING THE MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE.

PARIS, Jan. 5.

La Paix newspaper asserts that Russia urges the meeting of the conference now that Crete is quiet, with a view to prevent the expulsion of the Greeks from the Ottoman territory. It is intimated that the representatives of the Porte will leave the conference at this point, if introduced, and warns Russia of the danger of another Crimean war.

THE CASE OF THE SULIOTES ENDED.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 5.

A mixed commission, with Fornin as President, has been appointed to adjudicate the case of the Greek steamer Eronia.

CLAIMS OF THE CRETANS.

LONDON, Jan. 5.

It is said that Greece will introduce the claims of the Cretans into the conference about to meet in Paris, and will demand that they be allowed to declare who shall be their ruler by a plebiscitum.

Spain.

THE OUTRAGE ON THE AMERICAN FLAG AT MALAGA —THE PERPETRATORS PUNISHED.

MADRID, Jan. 5.

Four of the insurgents at Malaga fired into a party of refugees while under the protection of the American flag. The General in command at Malaga had the offenders arrested and punished, and has since communicated with the commander of the American squadron, informing him of the measures taken by the Spanish Government in the case.

CARLIST CONSPIRACY DISCOVERED.

MADRID, Jan. 5.

A Carlist conspiracy has been discovered in Barcelona, with ramifications in Saragossa and other places. Many persons have been arrested implicated in the conspiracy, among them Costello, a noted Carlist. The peasants in Andalusia, pressed by poverty, have organized into plundering parties and are pillaging the rich landowners.

Chicago, 19; foreigners' children, 39; other parts of United States, 1; England, 2; Germany, 10; Ireland, 7; Norway, 1; Sweden, 1; Scotland, 1; total, 66.

The greatest mortality in proportion to the population was in the Kossuth and Twelfth Wards, in each of which seven deaths occurred.

The report closes with the following remarks by the Sanitary Superintendent: The small number of deaths from diphtheria is more than a good sign of the health of the city. This is particularly desirable as the wards are now rapidly filling up, and the buildings are taken into consideration. At no period in the history of Chicago was the health so small, of course having in mind the population. The number of deaths and paupers are the final test of death, but the mortality by them is not as great as usual. But one case of small-pox has been reported this week, and the Small-Pox Hospital is without a patient. Fresh vaccine matter can be obtained by applying to the board.

The board then adjourned.

THE LATE JUDGE TYLER.

Meeting of the Chicago Bar—Resolutions—The Alleged Cause of His Death.

A meeting of the Bar of Chicago was held at 11 o'clock yesterday morning, at the Law Institute, to take action on the death of the late Judge Tyler. Hon. C. M. Harris was chair. Mr. Hoyne, from the Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which was passed unanimously:

Resolved, That in his sudden death and searching, the members of the Bar of this city have lost, and we are solemnly and forcibly warned that we shall soon lose, a friend and brother.

Resolved, That in the death of Judge Tyler, we have sustained the loss of one who, for his great and earnest, generous and able advocate, a painstaking and conscientious judge, and a true citizen and friend and an honest man; who, by the example of his life, has left to his children and to his profession a priceless heritage, a stainless name.

Resolved, That we respectfully tender to the family of our deceased brother our sincere sympathy in their affliction.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint members of the bar to present a copy of these resolutions to the Circuit Court of Cook County, and to the relatives and friends of the deceased.

Judge E. S. Smith alluded to the death of Judge Tyler, which, he thought, could be traced to the painful circumstances connected therewith. He had been informed that the physician who attended him was surrounded by violence received from the friends of the deceased. Had Judges Tuley and Van Buren and Mr. Hibbard been appointed a committee to investigate the matter, he thought it would be accordingly appointed.

Mr. Hibbard was appointed to communicate the resolutions to the Circuit Court, and the following named gentlemen to announce the death to the Superior Court: United States Circuit Judge Drummond, Judge Van Buren, Solicitor-General Bissell, Messrs. Hoyne, Lawrence, Ira O. Wilkinson, Orrin L. Mann, Leonard Swett, Jr., D. Driscoll, Cook-ty. Franklin Dunnison.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE CITY IN BRIEF.

It is Episcopal in Cincinnati that the Ninth Street Baptist Church—the wealthiest Baptist Church in that city—is preparing to call to the Rev. R. Jeffery, D. D., of this city, to assume the pastorate of their church. *Visitation* reasons that Judge Jeffery was induced to leave the invitation of the North Baptist Church of this city, by the fact that the latter was originating from a weak society, in the hope of securing a strong pastorate. The Rev. Dr. Jeffery has not, as we understand, yet decided whether he will be induced to continue the service, or not. It is a matter of question, but, should he conclude to sever his present connection, the Baptist Church of this city would find it very difficult to secure his equal in eloquence, though his position and attainments would enable him to preside over either a college or recognized of remarkable ability. We understand that Dr. Jeffery will decide the call, this week, and that there would be a meeting of the Corning Church on Thursday night, for the consideration of the same. Only, it is thought, to the way he better the native tribes, his progress has been impeded, and consequently he has been unable to reach the sea coast.

EARTHQUAKE IN PERSIA.

LONDON, Jan 5.

Telegraphic reports have been received from Alexandria of an earthquake at Tabreez, a Persian city, in which 50,000 people, on Sunday last, lost their lives. Shocks are said to have been violent, but no loss of life is reported.

MARINE.

LONDONDERRY, Jan. 5.

The Nestoria, from Portland, has arrived.

THE SOUTH.

The Memphis & Little Rock Railroad Swindle—City Election in Little Rock —Another Version of the Ogeechee Difficulties—Election of a Congressman in Florida.

MEMPHIS, Jan. 5.—The City Council is in a state of excitement over the Memphis & Little Rock Railroad swindle. A bill was introduced in the First National Bank, to appear and show cause why it should not pay $150,000 to the keeper of a portion of the bond. A meeting of the Council was held last night, but only a few citizens were present. A committee was appointed to confer with the Chairman of this meeting to-day. A message from Mayor Leftwich on the subject was read. He says he is opposed to the payment of the bonds, and will demand that they be allowed to declare who shall be their ruler by a plebiscitum.

Spain.

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THE TELEGRAPH EMBROGLIO.

Competing Wires on the Same Poles to be Allowed.

The Injunction Against the Pacific & Atlantic Company Dissolved.

Judge Jameson's Decision.

Judge Jameson, presiding in the Chancery branch of the Superior Court, yesterday delivered his opinion and made his decision in the matter of the motion of the Western Union Telegraph Company and the Pacific & Atlantic Telegraph Company, to dissolve the points secured by the Great Western Railway Company, by the latter named telegraph company. In this case there was a bill to restrain the Company to restrain the tearing down of its wires upon these poles. There was also a cross bill to restrain the Pacific from stretching its wires upon the poles which, under a contract, the Western Union claimed as its own. The motion was to dissolve the latter injunction.

The facts are, that in November, 1864, the Western Union Telegraph Company made a contract with the Great Western Railway (which afterward, by change of name, became the Chicago, Alton & Saint Louis Railway Company) by which it was agreed that the telegraph company should stretch